Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland

## **Forest Service News Release**

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## Visitors encouraged to remember fire safety as seasons change

Fire restrictions rescinded as of October 1.

**LARAMIE, Wyo., September 30, 2021** — As seasons change on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland (MBRTB), visitors are reminded to exercise caution when building and maintaining fires.

Effective Oct. 1, fire restrictions will be rescinded on all National Forest System lands managed by the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland.

This includes National Forest and Grassland in Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties in northwest Colorado; Albany, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Crook, Natrona, Niobrara, Platte, and Weston counties in Wyoming.

While the onset of shorter days and cooler temperatures has seasonally decreased fire danger, all areas of the MBRTB remain in <u>drought of varying levels of intensity</u>. Large wildfire activity has been less substantial in 2021 than in recent years, however late-season fires have become more common in the Rocky Mountain region. Hunters, campers, and all other forest visitors should exercise caution to reduce wildfire risk.

Campfire safety best practices include making sure that campfires are thoroughly extinguished before leaving a fire unattended. This is effectively done by stirring coals and other burned materials with water until cool. Even if your fire is a relatively small warming fire, the fire should be dead out before you leave the site. More campfire safety information is available online.

Regarding ongoing wildfires on the Routt National Forest, all fires have transitioned management back to local Forest resources. Engines continue to patrol and monitor fires while conducting fire suppression repair work as necessary.

<u>Area closures</u> on National Forest System lands remain in place for the Muddy Slide, Morgan Creek, and Black Mountain fires.

As dictated by changing conditions and fire behavior, fire information and updates will be provided by the USDA Forest Service on Twitter and Facebook, as well as InciWeb.

More information can also be found on our <u>website</u> or social media channels: <u>@FS\_MBRTB</u> on Twitter or <u>@FSMBRTB</u> on Facebook.

Call or visit your local office for site-specific information.

- Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District, Saratoga, Wyo., (307) 326-5258
- Douglas Ranger District, Douglas, Wyo., (307) 358-4690
- Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District, Steamboat Springs, Colo., (970) 870-2299
- Forest Supervisor's Office & Laramie Ranger District, Laramie, Wyo., (307) 745-2300
- Parks Ranger District, Walden, Colo., (970) 723-2700
- Yampa Ranger District, Yampa, Colo., (970) 638-4516

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